

Bennett incinerator being built in the Bay of Chaleurs

Contributed by **ron collins** on Thu, 2004-05-20 05:16.

In sections: [Maritimes](#) [Environment](#)

Bennett Environmental, Inc. is proposing to import large quantities of toxic waste (100,000+ tons per year of contaminated soil), from polluted sites in the U.S. & Canada, then treating it in the Chaleur region of New Brunswick. **Bennett facilities have been rejected in the province of British Columbia, Ontario and by the state of Massachusetts. But, the New Brunswick government, dismissing fierce opposition from doctors, scientists, environmentalists, and many concerned citizens, has given preliminary approval for a Bennett toxic waste incinerator in Belledune, New Brunswick.** The incinerator is currently under construction and could be operational by July 2004. stopbennett.com encourages you to get informed and take action.

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) says air pollution from an incinerator travels at least 50 kilometers (31 miles). And, existing data shows that burning hazardous waste, even in "state-of-the-art" incinerators, will lead to the release of dangerous pollutants into the environment and enter the **food-chain**. This suggests that an area well beyond Belledune could potentially be affected by toxic emissions, endangering the health of citizens as well as having a negative impact on the region's complex and sensitive ecosystem, which contains a number of species already at risk of extinction.

The Bay of Chaleur (Baie des Chaleurs) is also home to a commercial agriculture, fisheries and aquaculture industry currently employing thousands and generating tens of millions in revenues. Moving, stacking and treating contaminated soil, may very well threaten this industry of international importance in northern New Brunswick. In 1999, the Belgian agricultural industry was devastated by a dioxin contamination scare. A mere 40 to 50 milligrams of contamination resulted in losses of over \$3 billion (U.S.).